

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A content-providing system for presenting a flight simulator program to a user operating a client computer on a digital network, said system comprising:

a gateway having an interface to a said digital network; and  
at least one host computer system executing a server portion of said flight simulator program, wherein the server portion comprises executable code that is based upon executable code used in an actual aircraft component; wherein said gateway is operable to receive a request for a connection to said server portion from a client portion of said flight simulator program executing on the client computer, and to establish a connection between said client portion and said server portion such that primary processing for said flight simulator takes place at said server portion, and such that interface updates are processed at said client portion.

Claim 2 (original): The content-providing system of claim 1 further comprising a database in communication with said gateway.

Claim 3 (original): The content providing system of claim 2 wherein said gateway is further operable to establish said connection based upon authentication of said user based upon information contained in said database.

Claim 4 (original): The content-providing system of claim 2 wherein said database comprises billing information.

Claim 5 (cancelled).

Claim 6 (currently amended): The content providing system of claim 1 wherein said actual aircraft component is a flight management system (FMS).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A method of providing access via a digital network from a client portion to a server portion of a flight simulator program at a content-providing system, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a connection from a the client portion via said digital network at a gateway associated with said content-providing system;

establishing a connection between said client portion and said server portion across said digital network via said gateway in response to the request;

executing said server portion at said content-providing system, wherein the server portion comprises executable code that is based upon executable code used in an actual aircraft component; and

providing instructions from said server portion to said client portion, said instructions corresponding to an update to a user interface executing at said client portion.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 wherein said step of establishing said connection comprises:

receiving an authentication credential from a user at said gateway; and  
correlating said credential with an entry in a database at said content-providing system to verify that said user is permitted to access said server portion prior to said executing step.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 further comprising the step of monitoring a time of usage at said content-providing system.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of maintaining information at said content-providing system, wherein said billing information is correlated to said time of usage.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein said program is an aircraft simulation program.

Claim 12 (cancelled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 11 wherein the aircraft component comprises a flight management system.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13 wherein said program is stored on a card executing on a host computer associated with said content-providing system.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A system for providing access over a network between a server application and a client application executing on a client computer, said system comprising:

- a plurality of cards, each of said plurality of cards comprising a card processor configured to execute a copy of said server application, wherein the server application comprises executable code that is based upon executable code used in an actual aircraft component; and
- a gateway in communication with said network and with each of said plurality of cards, wherein said gateway is operatively configured to provide access between said client application and the copy of said server application executing on one of said plurality of card processors via said network, and wherein said access is based upon authentication of a credential provided from said client computer.

Claim 16 (original): The system of claim 15 wherein each of said plurality of computer applications comprises an aircraft simulation program.

Claim 17 (cancelled).

Claim 18 (previously presented): The system of claim 15 wherein said actual aircraft component is a flight management system.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 15 wherein said network is a distributed interactive simulation (DIS) network.

Claim 20 (original): The system of claim 15 wherein said network is a high level architecture (HLA) network.

Claim 21 (original): The system of claim 19 wherein said system is connected through said IDS network to a distributed mission training (DMT) scenario.

Claim 22 (original): The system of claim 20 wherein said system is connected through said HLA network to a distributed mission training (DMT) scenario.